

REMARKS

In the Office Action, all of Claims 62-73 were rejected as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. §112. It is noted, however, that no art rejections were set forth with respect to these claims, and in fact the Examiner indicated that all of Claims 62-73 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the noted indefiniteness rejections. The Examiner's indication in this regard is acknowledged with thanks.

Referencing now the indefiniteness rejections, it is noted that these rejections as set forth on pages 2-3 of the Office Action relate primarily to terms which the Examiner considered "relative" and hence indefinite. While Applicant does not agree with the Examiner's assertion of indefiniteness with respect to the noted terms, nevertheless in an effort to expedite allowance of this application, Applicant has rewritten many of re-presented Claims 62-73 in a manner which is believed to overcome the noted objection.

More specifically, Claim 62 has been rewritten in a manner which is believed to address all of the asserted indefiniteness areas of the claim. In this respect, most of the noted terms, such as "small", "lightweight" and other noted areas have been deleted since the Examiner obviously was giving these terms no weight in view of the objection thereto, particularly when coupled with the Examiner's allowability indication.

The Examiner also objected to the term "configured" as appearing in Claim 62. It is submitted that this objection is improper and that the term "configured" is not indefinite. Rather, the term "configured" is utilized and routinely accepted at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office when used to define relationships associated specifically with electronic equipment, such as the "processor" of the present invention. In this respect, if the Examiner carries out any type of survey with respect to patents which issue each week from the Patent Office and which deal with electronics or software, it will be determined that the word "configured" is routinely

utilized and accepted as proper claim terminology. Withdrawal of this objection by the Examiner is hence respectfully requested.

As an alternative, if the Examiner still believes that the "configured" term is indefinite, then it is proposed that the phrase "and configured" as appearing in Claim 62 be deleted, since it is submitted that the subparagraph defining the "processor" still properly and definitively defines the invention even with deletion of the "configured" term.

Regarding the dependent claims, all have been reviewed and amended where necessary so that all properly refer back to "the screening arrangement" as defined in the parent claim.

Regarding dependent Claims 63 and 72, it is believed that the "configured" language appearing therein is not indefinite, but rather is an accepted and definitive manner of defining "processor" functions, as discussed above, whereby further amendment of these claims is believed unnecessary. Again, however, as an alternative proposal, the phrase "is configured to control" could be changed to "controls" in Claim 63, and the phrase "is configured to evaluate" can be changed to "evaluates" (at both locations) while still retaining a clear and definitive definition of the processor incorporated into the claimed invention.

Claim 74 is a newly added dependent claim which has been added in view of the antecedent terminology objection raised relative to Claim 71.

Accordingly, all of Claims 62-74 as pending herein are believed in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112. Allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

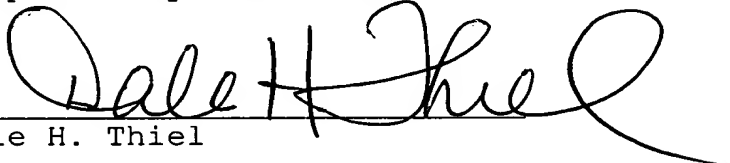
Attached hereto is a further Information Disclosure Statement which identifies thereon additional prior art documents. The Examiner is advised that these additional prior art documents came to Applicants' attention within three months of the date hereof, specifically on or about December 27, 2004, as a result of a communication received from the European Patent Office relative to an opposition filed in a

corresponding counterpart European application. These documents, as submitted under 37 CFR 1.97(d), hence are believed to be properly submittable at this time in view of the facts as outlined above. It should be noted that the mentioned opposition included citation of other prior art, but this other prior art is already officially of record in this U.S. application.

Regarding the additional prior art which is listed on Form PTO-1449 attached to the Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith, it is believed that a brief review of this prior art by the Examiner will readily indicate that none of this additional prior art is believed to render any of pending Claims 62-74 unpatentable under either 35 U.S.C. §102 or 35 U.S.C. §103.

Accordingly, further and favorable of this application, and allowance thereof, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Dale H. Thiel

DHT/jp

FLYNN, THIEL, BOUTELL
& TANIS, P.C.
2026 Rambling Road
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-1631
Phone: (269) 381-1156
Fax: (269) 381-5465

Dale H. Thiel	Reg. No. 24 323
David G. Boutell	Reg. No. 25 072
Ronald J. Tanis	Reg. No. 22 724
Terryence F. Chapman	Reg. No. 32 549
Mark L. Maki	Reg. No. 36 589
Liane L. Churney	Reg. No. 40 694
Brian R. Tumm	Reg. No. 36 328
Steven R. Thiel	Reg. No. 53 685
Donald J. Wallace	Reg. No. 43 977
Sidney B. Williams, Jr.	Reg. No. 24 949

Encl: Information Disclosure Statement
Form PTO-1449 and one copy of each listed reference
Postal Card

136.05/04